

MINUTES
GOVERNOR'S P-20 COUNCIL
General Meeting
Friday, December 6, 2005
10:30 a.m.

Location: 1700 W. Washington
2nd Floor Conference Room
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Members Present: Dr. Rufus Glasper, Cathleen Barton, Mark Bryce, Ernie Calderon, Susan Carlson, Dr. Michael Crow, Dr. David Curd, George Dean, Dr. Matthew Diethelm, Bill Estes, Dr. Sybil Francis, Harry Garewal, Vivian Gonzales, Bob Hagen, Dr. John Haeger, Jack Jewett, Dr. Laura Palmer Noone, Dean Phillips, Cindy Rudrud, Amy Besing, Jack Swanson, Dr. Jim Zaharis, and Lynda French.

Members Absent: Governor Napolitano, Mayor Phil Gordon, Kristen Rex, Gregory Donovan, Dr. Roy Flores, Superintendent Tom Horne, Dr. Peter Likins, Cathy McKee, Dr. Douglas Olesen, Senators Toni Hellon and Harry Mitchell (ex-officio), Representatives Ann Kirkpatrick and Laura Knaperak (ex-officio).

1. Call to Order & Welcome

Dr. Glasper called the meeting to order at 10:32am. He welcomed everyone and introduced the newest appointment to the Council, Mr. George Dean, Executive Director of the Arizona Urban League. Dr. Glasper then asked the Council members to introduce themselves.

Dr. Glasper indicated that Governor Napolitano sends her regrets for being unable to attend today's meeting noting that Arizona has lost a member of its law enforcement family – Officer Paul Salmon of the Phoenix Police Department. Governor Napolitano is attending his funeral service in Chandler.

Dr. Glasper indicated that the agenda for today's meeting encompasses information the Council has been accumulating on education policy and classroom programs. In February, when the alignment report comes in, all of the information the Council has received over the last three or four meetings will provide some context and ideas about what shape we want Arizona's education system to take.

2. Approval of Minutes

- August 5, 2005
- October 12, 2005

There being no discussion or corrections, Susan Carlson moved approved of the August 5, 2005 and October 12, 2005 P-20 Council meeting minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Ernie Calderon and unanimously approved.

3. Presentation & Discussion: Adolescent Literacy

Dr. Glasper welcomed Governor Bob Wise, Director of the Alliance for Excellent Education, to present the Alliance's report on Adolescent Literacy. Dr. Glasper defined the process the Council will follow to handle this issue in the Governor's absence. Governor Wise will provide an overview of his work and the recommendations. The Adolescent Literacy Committee will meet to review the Report, discuss the recommendations and bring back for Council approval an action plan for implementation. Dr. Glasper thanked Governor Wise and his staff for their excellent work stating that we appreciate the Alliance delving into this area for the state and providing a very insightful report.

Governor Bob Wise and Dr. Rafael Heller presented to the Council the Report on Improving Adolescent Literacy in Arizona. Governor Wise indicated that the Alliance is dedicated to helping state and federal policymakers design and implement such plans for improving adolescent literacy instruction. The Alliance has worked for the past two months to review existing data, gather opinions, study literacy achievement trends, identify literacy programs and resources, and consult with key educators, policy makers, and business and community leaders around the state.

During the presentation, Governor Wise stated that in Arizona 35% of 8th grade students are reading significantly below grade level (approximately two grades or more). He also indicated a particular concern regarding the significant achievement gap between Arizona's white students and its Hispanic, Native American, and black students. Governor Wise commended Governor Napolitano's efforts on programs such as one book per first and fourth grader as well as the establishment of the P-20 Council. Governor Wise indicated that the Report contained five major recommendations:

1. Launch a statewide adolescent literacy initiative, building on the already established emphasis on K-3 literacy, to promote effective reading and writing instruction throughout the K-12 continuum. This could be achieved through the establishment of an office, commission or panel to provide leadership for the projects and reforms now underway in the state.
2. Build school and district capacity to assess struggling readers' specific needs and/or disabilities.
3. Provide targeted reading interventions for secondary school students who read far below grade level.
4. Put reading and writing instruction at the center of an effective, ongoing professional development program for administrators and teachers in all content areas.

5. Pursue some initial, small-scale measures designed to raise public awareness of the adolescent literacy crisis, signal the state's commitment to addressing it, and build support for the larger initiative. An example would be to build on Governor Napolitano's One Book program, for example, by offering every middle school and high school student a subscription to a magazine— or any such program that encourages students to read.

Governor Wise expressed concern that Arizona cannot expect improvement in math and science if students cannot both read and comprehend technical text. He also noted a correlation between those scoring below grade level in reading at the 8th grade level and the high school dropout rate. Discussion followed with Council members asking questions regarding the economic impact of non-literacy attainment, the connections between literacy strategies and English language learning, how to get people focused on adolescent literacy issues, the cost to implement the recommendations in the report and for what results, and if the report noted a difference in urban versus rural districts.

The Council again thanked Governor Wise and Dr. Heller for the excellent report and indicated that this must be a call to action.

4. Presentation & Discussion: Mac-Ro Project - Rodel Foundation

Dr. Carol Peck from the Rodel Foundation presented information on the Rodel Math Achievement Club (MAC-Ro) Program. This initiative provides a systematic approach to ensure students in high poverty schools (70% or more receiving free or reduced lunch) have the opportunity to master the state math standards. The initiative provides monthly workbooks and incentives to ensure that students get additional practice on the state math standards at home. Currently, approximately 13,000 students are participating in the program from 68 schools in 30 districts.

The strategies of this program include:

1. Increased time on task – Teachers teach skills in class and send books home with the students for at-home practice.
2. Provides systematic review.
3. Ensures teachers are teaching the curriculum.
4. Ensures the principal monitors instruction.
5. Creates avenues for parent involvement.

The initial study on the effectiveness of this program was done in Maricopa County. The results were checked against Stanford 9 scores in which schools averaged an increase of three points. The schools with the MAC-Ro initiative improved an average of 19.5%.

Dr. Peck stated the plan is to expand this program extensively statewide and are already partnered with Bank One, Diamondbacks, APS, Intel, and the Legacy Foundation. The goal is to reach at least 50,000 students (half of the total number of students in 3rd and 4th grades). The program costs \$35 per child per year in Maricopa County and \$45 per child per year in outside counties. The hope is to also expand into the 5th grade.

Dr. Glasper thanked Dr. Peck for the very informative presentation.

5. Presentation & Discussion: Governor's Council on Innovation and Technology (GCIT) – Recommendations for Technology Education

Bob Hagen and Barbara Clark from the Governor's Council on Innovation and Technology (GCIT), presented GCIT's mission and recommendations to accelerate student learning for success in a dynamic, technology-rich workforce and post-secondary education. The GCIT is a Council established by the Governor to be a catalyst for developing new economic development strategies, and to focus primarily on improving Arizona's knowledge-based economy. The GCIT has the P-20 mindset and knows that its economic development strategies would struggle without a strong P-12 system to support it.

GCIT's Education Subcommittee's mission is to unlock Arizona's competitive potential by strengthening the essential foundation for innovation and technology through coordination and advancement of state and regional capabilities. To achieve this mission, GCIT believes three components are required: leadership, investment, and policy. Through leadership, assist in the developing of a world-class education system and improved telecommunications infrastructure to enhance human potential and business growth. Through investment, assist in the development of human capital by providing local community capacity building through education and access to advanced telecommunications infrastructure. And through policy by developing and support policies that ensure access to quality education and telecommunications infrastructure, ensuring a well-trained, productive and flexible workforce that meets the needs of business to compete in a rapidly changing, global environment. Ms. Clark indicated that educator preparation was key and that GCIT must promote the value of integrating technology into learning; address focused preparation and training for educators; and accelerate and reward increased technology skills. Additionally, a formative assessment must be part of this plan.

Dr. Glasper indicated that he knew the Governor has a strong interest in better integrating technology in the classroom and that the training issues are key to its success. Dr. Glasper stated that he knew the TQS has a full plate, but he would like to suggest that President Haeger's Committee look at the items Barbara highlighted for the Council today. In the meantime, the full report will be emailed to the Council for their review over the next few weeks and that in the Spring the Council needs to discuss the issue of technology specifically and try to

resolve where this piece fits in the education governance construct and with the Alignment Report. The Council agreed to this approach.

6. Presentation & Discussion: TQS Recommendations

Dr. John Haeger, Chair of the Governor's Committee on Teacher Quality and Support (TQS), presented to the P-20 Council the Committee's first set of recommendations which were presented to the Governor on December 5. The recommendations were as follows:

Compensation Recommendations:

1. Establish a minimum teaching salary.
2. Provide substantial performance pay opportunities.
3. Expand Career Ladder to all Districts.
4. Provide incentives to teach in hard-to-staff and hard-to-teach schools.
5. Research viability and possible pay levels for differential pay.

Professional Development Recommendations

1. Adopt the standards of the National Staff Development Council. (<http://www.nsd.org/standards/about/index.cfm>)
2. The State Board of Education shall establish a Professional Standards Board to oversee the policy development of the Professional Development Standards and guide implementation of standards in the field.
3. The Committee recommends immediate study of a statewide Professional Standards Board. The scope could include certification, licensure, oversight of the teaching standards, testing, professional development, teacher preparation and recruitment. The Committee shall study the scope and functions, structure, authority, timeline and other implementation issues, of a Professional Standards Board and forward a recommendation in 2006.
4. The professional development standards must be phased in over time to allow the state to build the resources and infrastructure necessary to support schools and educators. The state should immediately provide technical assistance to help educators understand the standards as well as guideposts for selecting and offering effective, standards-based professional development. The State should provide technical assistance grants to schools and districts demonstrating the most need.
5. Ensure that schools and educators have regional access to research-based professional development information as well as best practices for teaching and learning.

6. Ensure that schools and educators have regional access to highly qualified providers and that a coordinating entity exists to ensure regional capacity and accountability.
7. Pilot an individual professional development process for Individual Professional Development plans and report results of the pilot to the State Board of Education by August 2008.
8. The state must provide professional development as part of any state policy initiative or mandate that impact the classroom in a substantive way, and provide additional funding for the professional development to properly implement and deliver these new initiatives and mandates.

7. Updates & Reports from Committee Chairs

Dr. Glasper indicated that Dr. Jim Zaharis will chair the Access to Higher Education Committee. Regent Ernie Calderon provided an update on the recent ABOR meeting, the adoption of the four recommendations at that meeting, and the direction by ABOR that JCC and ACCA continue to work to resolve the issue of four-year baccalaureates being offered by community colleges.

The four recommendations adopted include:

1. Increase transfer credits for select programs for which 65-90 hours of transfer credit will be possible;
2. Increase the number and scope of community college-university partnerships to include joint appointment of faculty with both university and community college responsibilities; joint admission of qualified students; shared/joint advising services and shared facilities and dedicated space;
3. Establish joint funding models to assure that necessary dollars are available for both sides of the partnership;
4. Expand Arizona University system campuses and statewide programs (e.g. NAU to open branch or regional campuses where there is an identified need).

The two recommendations still be explored:

5. Develop a pathway for baccalaureate degrees at community colleges;
6. Explore the need and create a pathway for a 4-year regional degree granting college.

Debra Raeder updated the Council on the Alignment Report Project. Debra stated that the Project is on track for a final report to the Council on February 16th. Using the key growth or emerging industries identified in numerous studies already conducted in Arizona – Construction, high-technology, tourism, life sciences, and

transportation/logistics – the Alignment Project will determine the various skill sets and educational requirements for in-demand and higher wage occupations identified in each industry sector, how these skill sets and requirements align with current high school graduation standards and post-secondary training and education entrance requirements.

Public Works will be conducting roundtable forums in Construction, Transportation, and Life Sciences to validate these findings to Arizona workforce demands and needs for providing a pipeline of skilled workers. These roundtables are being conducted on December 14, 15 and 16 and interested persons should contact Debra for information on locations and times. A Tourism Roundtable will be conducted in January. The information obtained at these Roundtables will be incorporated into the report presented to the P-20 Council in February, 2006.

8. Call to the Public

Mitzie Epstein addressed the Council and asked them to work on integrating technology into the state standards and to ensure that teachers had the appropriate software and hardware as well as the training to use this technology in the classroom.

9. Announcements and Adjournment

Dr. Glasper announced that the next Meeting of the P-20 Council is January 13, 2006 @ 10:00.a.m.

There being no further business, Dr. Glasper adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.